



MICHIGAN
SUPREME
COURT

ANNUAL REPORT 2001

CHIEF JUSTICE

Maura D. Corrigan

JUSTICES

Michael F. Cavanagh

Elizabeth A. Weaver

Marilyn Kelly

Clifford W. Taylor

Robert P. Young, Jr.

Stephen J. Markman



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:
Justice Robert P. Young, Jr., Justice Marilyn Kelly, Justice Michael F. Cavanagh,
Chief Justice Maura D. Corrigan, Justice Clifford W. Taylor,
Justice Elizabeth A. Weaver, Justice Stephen J. Markman

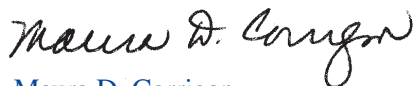
a message from Chief Justice Maura D. Corrigan

As I write this, it is now six months to the day from September 11. For our nation, as for the rest of the world, the year 2001 will always be associated with that terrible morning.

Michigan's "One Court of Justice" faces new and unprecedented challenges in the wake of September 11. This Annual Report begins with a description of steps this Court is taking to protect Michigan's courts, and all who come to the courts, from terrorism, crime, and other threats to security.

Clearly, the everyday work of ordered liberty must go on, even in the face of terrorism. The Report also focuses on improvements to Michigan's justice system. Some of these efforts have been completed; others are works in progress. Whether the project involves rethinking court organization, perfecting paperless filing, or improving collection of child support, the goal is always the same: a justice system that serves the people of Michigan.

As our "One Court of Justice" looks back on the first year of the 21st century, we recall two exemplary lives, two former Chief Justices of this Court, who passed away in 2001: James H. Brickley and Mary Stallings Coleman. They were members of what has been called "The Greatest Generation"; as is typical of their generation, their lives were dedicated to the ideals of public service and personal integrity. In their passing, we are reminded how vital is this enterprise, this work we have, of doing justice.



Maura D. Corrigan
Chief Justice, Michigan Supreme Court
March 11, 2002

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MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT ANNUAL REPORT 2001

2001 HIGHLIGHTS

Security

While court security has always been an important concern, the events of September 11 emphasized the need for proactive security planning. The day after the attacks, the Supreme Court issued a directive to all Michigan trial courts asking for their cooperation in security planning. Thanks in part to information provided by the trial courts, the Supreme Court will coordinate security training in early 2002 for emergency services coordinators in each court. The Court also began issuing regular security updates to keep trial courts informed about security matters, such as procedures for handling suspicious mail. In addition, for the first time, the judicial branch will be included on the State Department Emergency Management Coordinators. The group advises the Governor and the director of the Michigan State Police in developing emergency plans and operations.

Earlier in 2001, the Supreme Court directed trial courts to develop policies on weapons screening. The Court set its own policy regarding weapons in the Supreme Court courtroom. The Court also directed the State Court Administrative Office to develop courtroom security standards and model policies. Draft standards have been published for comment and will be finalized in early 2002.

Child Support Enforcement

Michigan is the only state that has a Friend of the Court (FOC) as the agency responsible for enforcing child support and parenting time. According to statistics released in 2001 by the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement, which reviewed all states' child support collections for FY2000, Michigan had child support collections of \$509,418 per full-time employee (FTE) — more than \$200,000 per FTE above the national average of \$306,927 per FTE. Only two other states, South Carolina and Wisconsin, had higher collections per FTE than Michigan.



The Child Support Enforcement System (CSES) is a computer system mandated by federal law; in Michigan, it is managed by the Family Independence Agency. CSES makes it possible to track down parents who fail to pay child support. As of January 1, 2001, ten Michigan counties had not converted to CSES, and the state faced millions of dollars in federal penalties. All ten counties, including Wayne County, converted their caseloads to CSES by the October 1 deadline. More than 500,000 of the state's 800,000 active cases were converted during that nine-month period. Michigan now awaits federal certification of the CSES system. If certified, Michigan could recoup several million dollars in federal sanctions that the state has already paid, in addition to avoiding future penalties.



Michigan Hall of Justice

The groundbreaking ceremony for the Michigan Hall of Justice was held in October 1999. Construction will be complete in fall 2002. The Michigan Judiciary's new home is located at the west end of the mall facing the Capitol building.

The 280,000-square-foot building will house the Supreme Court, the Michigan Court of Appeals (Lansing Office), and the State Court Administrative Office, including the Michigan Judicial Institute. First floor facilities include a conference center and a 3,500-square-foot public learning center to inform students and adults about the Michigan judiciary. A dedication ceremony is scheduled for October 8, 2002.

*... a 3,500 square foot
public learning
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students and adults
about the Michigan
judiciary.*

Collections

*Judges
reported a
100 percent
collection
rate during
the first day
alone.*

Court-imposed fines support a wide range of public services, including libraries, road projects, and local governments. In the Iron County Trial Court and the 46th Circuit Court judges tested a "pay when sentenced" approach to collecting fines and costs. The courts' success—judges reported a 100 percent collection rate during the first day alone—was one of the factors leading to the adoption of new Michigan Court Rule (MCR) 1.110 in October 2001. This rule, which took effect on January 1, 2002, states that court fines and costs are due at the time they are imposed. Trial Court Collections standards were issued in 2001 as well. More information about collections standards for courts can be found on the web at: <http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/resources/standards/index.htm#collect>.



Court Reorganization/Innovation

What is the best way to structure Michigan's trial courts? Should circuit, probate and district courts be consolidated into a single trial court? Should one court hear all family issues?

These are among the issues being explored in the seven Demonstration Project Courts (Barry, Berrien, Iron, Isabella, Lake, and Washtenaw Counties, and 46th Circuit, which includes Crawford, Kalkaska, and Otsego Counties). The Demonstration Project Courts, which began in 1996, combined circuit, probate and district courts into a single trial court. All demonstration court judges have full authority to hear all cases within each court's jurisdiction.

A September 2001 study conducted by the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) concluded that "[a]ll of the consolidated courts are generally making more efficient use of judicial and quasi-judicial resources under the demonstration projects than the pre-consolidation courts." In addition, the NCSC study found that the project courts:

- hastened the delivery of justice to families;
- reduced their net operating costs and improved management of court revenues;
- reduced the size and age of pending caseloads; and
- made effective use of technology.

The consolidated courts are generally making more efficient use of judicial and quasi-judicial resources.

In 2001, the Supreme Court also instituted the Next Generation Model Trial Courts Project. The courts involved in this project focus on consolidating key management processes and on using technology to integrate management functions. Circuit, probate, and district courts in Arenac, Cheboygan, Genesee, Kalamazoo, Marquette, Midland, Muskegon, Ogemaw, and Roscommon Counties, and circuit and probate courts in Eaton, Ingham, Oakland and Livingston Counties became program participants in 2001. A more detailed description of the project is available at <http://www.supremecourt.state.mi.us/nextgeneration/index.htm>.

A series of public hearings was held in 2001 on court reorganization and other topics. The Supreme Court will submit a final court reorganization proposal early in 2002 to the Legislature.

Web Presence

On October 10, 2001, a “One Court of Justice” web page debuted. (The site address is <http://courts.michigan.gov>.) The page features links to the Michigan Supreme Court, Michigan Court of Appeals, state trial courts, and State Court Administrative Office. Supreme Court and Court of Appeals opinions are available through those courts’ web sites. In addition, the page offers links to Michigan laws, court rules, and educational resources, such as the Supreme Court Learning Center, which includes special programs for children studying the justice system. A wide variety of court forms are also available through the site, for use in civil cases, adoption, garnishment, landlord and tenant, personal protection orders, small claims, trusts and estates, and many more types of legal matters.



Technology and the Courts



Computer and Internet technology present challenges for the courts, as well as many potential benefits: Internet access to court information, electronic filing, payment of court obligations. Thanks to the “Cyber Court” created by Public Act 262 of 2001, Michigan’s “One Court of Justice” will have a laboratory for integrating electronic legal practice into Michigan’s justice system. The Cyber Court, which is due to begin operating on October 1, 2002, will serve as a model for technological innovations in Michigan courts. The Cyber Court will also offer a forum for swift resolution of business and commercial actions, including those involving information technology, software, or web site development, maintenance or hosting.

The Supreme Court’s Technological Advisory Group (TAG), which is chaired by Justice Robert P. Young, Jr., is developing a strategic technology plan for Michigan courts. The group includes judges from the Michigan Court of Appeals, trial court judges, court administrators, and members of the State Bar of Michigan. TAG is studying the current state of judicial branch technology, including the variety of case management systems used by Michigan courts.

In October 2001, the “Judicial Technology Improvement Fund,” which was established by the Legislature, opened with an appropriation of \$2.09 million. The fund will support the development of a statewide telecommunications infrastructure, with the goal of sharing information among courts, state and local executive agencies and with the public. The fund will also provide grants to local governments that fund trial courts to explore such innovations as electronic filing and on-line payment of court fines and fees.

Michigan Drug Treatment Courts

Michigan's drug treatment courts help substance-abusing offenders break the hold addiction has on their lives. But what is a "drug court"?

Drug treatment courts are special dockets within the district and circuit courts dealing with nonviolent drug and alcohol offenses. Drug court participants are required to enter a plea of guilty and participate in judicially-supervised treatment and other services with ongoing random testing for alcohol and other drugs for approximately one year.

Michigan currently has 26 drug treatment court programs in various stages of planning and development. The drug courts are funded through the Michigan Drug Court Grant Program created by Public Act 137 of 1999. Funding for the program has been continued each year since 1999. Beginning in FY2002, the Department of Community Health/Office of Drug Control Policy will collaborate with the State Court Administrative Office and provide funding assistance for drug treatment court programs in Michigan.

Protecting Children

Across the country, courts are taking a hard look at how they can help protect children from abuse and neglect, and Michigan is no exception. Through Michigan's participation in the federally-funded Court Improvement Project (CIP), state courts are learning better ways to manage child protection proceedings. Michigan CIP projects include:

- **Permanency Planning Mediation**
Program. This program, with pilot projects in 11 sites, examines whether mediation helps children in foster care find permanent homes. Neutral mediators help parents and other parties resolve issues over where children will live and what services families need. An evaluation of the process will be completed in 2002.
- **Absent Parent Protocol Project.** When children are at risk, noncustodial parents need to be located and involved in protection proceedings. This project helped courts and the Family Independence Agency (FIA) develop methods for doing so. The Absent Parent Protocol will be implemented statewide in 2002; its use will be evaluated by the Foster Care Review Board. [continued on next page](#)



Protecting Children continued from previous page

- **Collaboration with the Family Independence Agency.** Courts are working with FIA on a variety of child protective proceedings issues, including implementing the Adoption and Safe Families Act.
- **Michigan Guardians Ad Litem Statute.** With funds from the Governor's Task Force on Children's Justice, Michigan's statute governing the appointment of lawyer-guardians ad litem will be evaluated.

CIP funding has also supported the following: development of the *Child Protective Proceeding Benchbook*; publication of *Guidelines For Achieving Permanency in Child Protection*; expansion of the Court Appointed Special Advocate Program; numerous training programs for judges, referees, court staff, lawyers, and social service agencies; and mini-grants for court-initiated projects, such as the redesign and furnishing of "child friendly" waiting areas.

Alternative Dispute Resolution

With new court rules adopted in 2000, the Supreme Court paved the way for trial courts to offer dispute resolution processes beyond traditional litigation. Litigants may now request or be ordered to try to resolve their dispute through one of many alternative dispute resolution processes.



In mediation, a neutral third person helps parties identify options for resolving the matter, resulting in a solution the parties themselves have designed. Mediation is being used in virtually every type of civil matter, including land use disputes, problems in commercial transactions and employment conflicts. In the family division, family members can focus on solving the problems at hand, whether in incorrigibility, domestic relations, or "family feuding" disputes. In the probate court, contested child and adult guardianship proceedings and estate matters can be collaboratively resolved through mediation as well.

As an increasing number of attorneys are trained through six SCAO-approved training programs, the use of mediation as a successful dispute resolution process is expected to increase considerably in the years ahead. [continued on next page](#)

Alternative Dispute Resolution continued from previous page

Community Dispute Resolution Program. Through this program, administered by the State Court Administrative Office, both litigants and persons who have not yet filed lawsuits may resolve matters through the mediation process. Grant funding provided to 24 nonprofit agencies throughout the state support a network of trained volunteer mediators.

While mediated matters may include virtually any type of civil matter filed in district court, increasingly, mediators are helping to resolve complex civil matters. Housed within this program are the Michigan Agricultural Mediation Program, Michigan Special Education Mediation Program, and the Permanency Planning Mediation Program. In 2001, the program experienced a 22% increase in the number of matters mediated. Parties reached agreement in 75% of the matters, and the average case was disposed of within 21 days.

Trial Court Management Activities

The State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) assists and oversees chief judges and judges of 244 trial courts, and their trial court staff, on trial court management matters. SCAO collects, analyzes, and publishes management information regarding operations of trial courts. This information is used by the Supreme Court and SCAO to evaluate Michigan courts' performance and to make decisions regarding court operations. SCAO undertook a wide range of activities in 2001 to support Michigan's judiciary:

- The completion of 25 management assistance projects covering facility reviews, security reviews, personnel studies, operational reviews, and procedural reviews.
- The development of guidelines, training programs, model administrative orders and public notices to implement Supreme Court Orders concerning collections, security policies for trial courts, and video proceedings for the family division of the circuit court and the probate court.
- Extensive training to support Case File Management Standards and corresponding assistance in addressing records management, records retention, imaging options, and records destruction.
- The development of informational documents and training in conjunction with other state agencies to assist trial courts and system providers in implementing legislation. SCAO provided particularly significant assistance to implement legislation concerning DNA testing and assessment, domestic violence, carrying a concealed weapon, and civil infraction assessments. [continued on next page](#)

Trial Court Management Activities continued from previous page

- In 2001, a five-year project to revise the Michigan Trial Court Caseload Reporting System was completed. The project included developing specifications for tracking and collecting caseload information. Trial courts are now using the new system to report filing and disposition information. Training for all courts and computer system vendors servicing the courts was conducted in the fall of 2001. System characteristics include:
 - The Caseload Reporting System (CRS) is web-based.
 - Courts may either enter caseload data manually or download data from their electronic systems.
 - On-line help is available.
 - The system includes security features.
 - Data is available to system users as soon as it is submitted.
 - The system provides automated monitoring and follow-up for delinquent reports.
 - The system offers a wide variety of output reports.
- During 2000 and 2001, the State Court Administrative Office undertook an extensive revision of the weighted caseload system, which uses caseload and case processing information to estimate judicial workloads. The weighted caseload system was updated to reflect modifications in court organization stemming from the creation of the family division, as well as changes in both civil and criminal jurisdiction. The revision is one of the most extensive judicial workload data collection studies ever conducted in the United States. Over half of all trial court judges and 359 judicial officers participated. Ninety-five thousand hours of case-related work data were reported and 220,000 cases were resolved as part of the study. The revised weighted caseload system was used to estimate judicial workloads and make judicial resource recommendations to the legislature.

The revision of the weighted caseload system is one of the most extensive judicial workload data collection studies ever conducted in the United States.

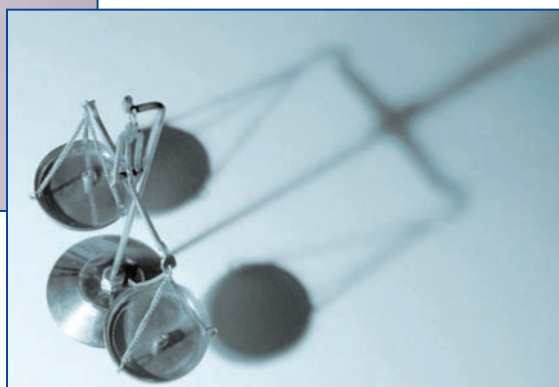
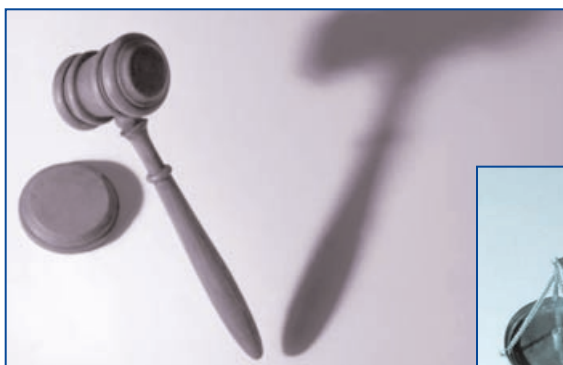
For more information about SCAO, visit <http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/>.

MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT ANNUAL REPORT 2001

JUDICIAL ACTIVITY AND CASELOAD

The primary function of the court system is to decide cases. In general, cases begin in the trial courts. Some categories of cases may be appealed to the Michigan Court of Appeals. The Michigan

Supreme Court is the highest appellate court and hears appeals primarily from decisions of the Michigan Court of Appeals.



Descriptions of the appellate courts and the trial courts are provided on the following pages along with case filing information.

Michigan Supreme Court

The Supreme Court is Michigan's court of last resort, consisting of seven justices. Cases come before the Court during a term that starts August 1 and runs through July 31 of the following year. The Court hears oral arguments in Lansing beginning in October of each term. Decisions are released throughout the term, following oral arguments.

Supreme Court justices are elected for eight-year terms. Candidates are nominated by political parties and are elected on a nonpartisan ballot. Two justices are elected every two years (one in the eighth year) in the November election. Supreme Court candidates must be qualified electors, licensed to practice law in Michigan, and at the time of election must be under 70 years of age. The justices' salary is fixed by the State Officers Compensation Commission and paid by the state. Vacancies are filled by appointment of the Governor until the next general election. Every two years, the justices of the Court elect a member of the Court as chief justice.

*Each year, the
Supreme Court
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applications for
leave to appeal.*

Each year, the Supreme Court receives over 2,000 applications for leave to appeal from litigants primarily seeking review of decisions by the Michigan Court of Appeals. Each justice is responsible for reviewing each case to determine whether leave should be granted. The Court issues a decision in all cases filed with the Clerk's Office. Cases that are not accepted for oral argument may be decided by an order, with or without an opinion. These orders may affirm or reverse the Michigan Court of Appeals, may remand a case to the trial court, or may adopt a correct Court of Appeals opinion.

The Supreme Court's authority to hear cases is discretionary. The Court grants leave to those cases of greatest complexity and public import, where additional briefing and oral argument are essential to reaching a just outcome.

In 2001, there were 2,291 cases filed in the Supreme Court. During the year, the Court disposed of 2,359 cases. Of the 2,291 new filings, 40% were civil and 60% were criminal cases. The Court completed 68 more cases than were filed in 2001 and decreased the pending caseload. Pending cases have been reduced from 2,162 in 1997 to 1,070 in 2001. The Court disposed of 724 motions by order in 2001.



2001 BENCH

CHIEF JUSTICE

Maura D. Corrigan

JUSTICES

Michael F. Cavanagh

Elizabeth A. Weaver

Marilyn Kelly

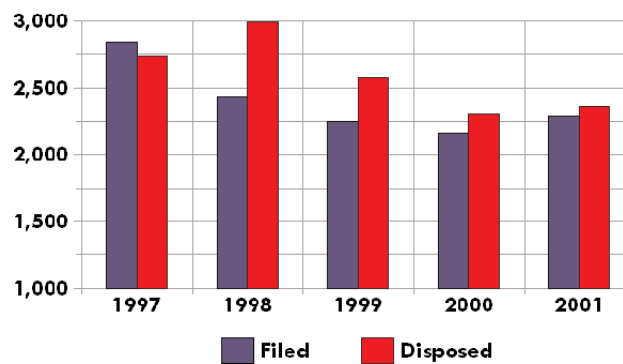
Clifford W. Taylor

Robert P. Young, Jr.

Stephen J. Markman

TRENDS IN SUPREME COURT CASES FILED AND DISPOSED

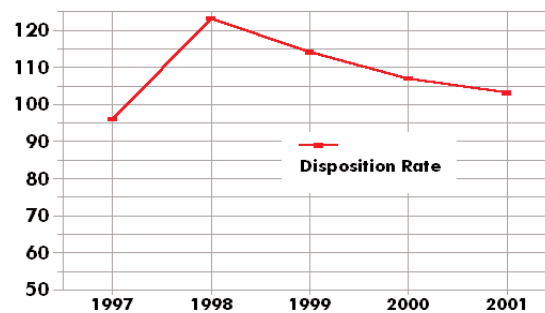
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Cases Filed	2,847	2,436	2,246	2,159	2,291
Cases Disposed	2,736	2,992	2,571	2,302	2,359



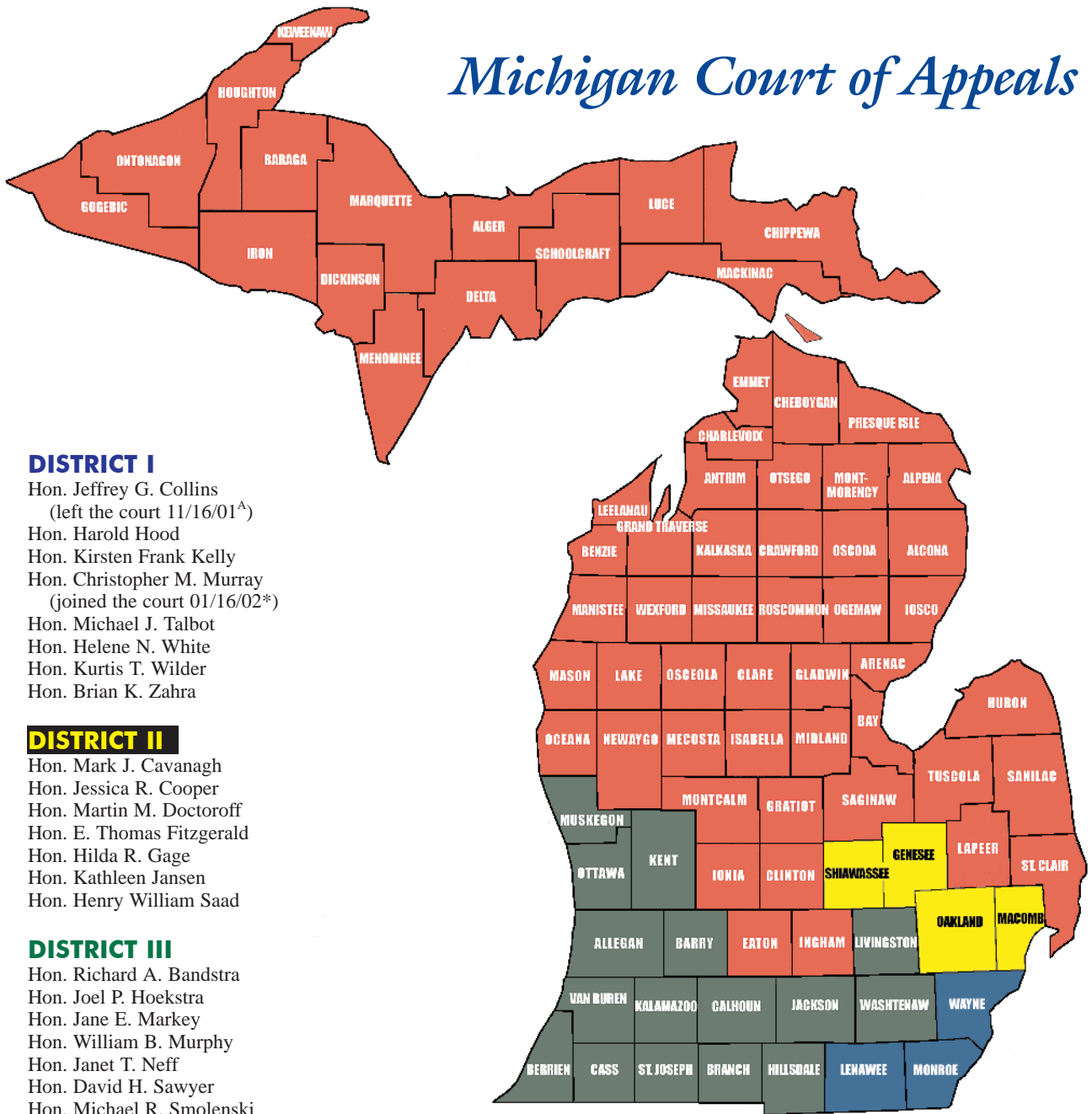
TRENDS IN DISPOSITION RATE

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Disposition Rate*	96	123	114	107	103

*Cases disposed yearly per 100 new filings



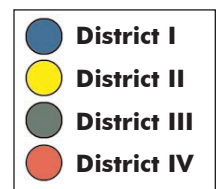
Michigan Court of Appeals



Court of Appeals districts in 2001. Legislature created new Court of Appeals districts effective 03/22/2002.

KEY

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| * Appointed to succeed another judge | F Deceased |
| A Appointed to another position | G Grandfathered |
| D Defeated | O Mandatory retirement |
| E Elected to another court | R Retired |
| | S Resigned |
| | T Term expired |



Michigan Court of Appeals

The Court of Appeals is the intermediate appellate court between the trial courts and the Michigan Supreme Court. While the Court of Appeals was created by the 1963 Michigan Constitution, its jurisdiction is established by statute. Court of Appeals' practice and procedure are governed by Michigan Court Rules set by the Supreme Court.

Court of Appeals judges are chosen in nonpartisan elections from four districts drawn by the Legislature on county lines. The districts are as nearly as possible of equal population. The Legislature may increase the number of judges and alter the districts from which they are elected by changing the state law. A candidate for the Court of Appeals must be a lawyer admitted to practice for at least five years, under 70 years of age, a qualified elector, and a resident of the district in which the candidate is running.

Court of Appeals judges are elected for six-year terms. Their salaries are set by the Legislature. The Supreme Court chooses a chief judge for the Court of Appeals every two years.

A candidate for the Court of Appeals must be a lawyer admitted to practice for at least five years, under 70 years of age, a qualified elector, and a resident of the district in which the candidate is running.

*In 2001,
7,102 cases
were filed
with the
Court of
Appeals.*

Panels of Court of Appeals judges hear cases in Lansing, Detroit, Grand Rapids, and Marquette. Panels are rotated to avoid the possibility that conflicting legal philosophies will develop in specific geographical areas. The decision of a Court of Appeals panel is final except for those cases that the Supreme Court reviews.

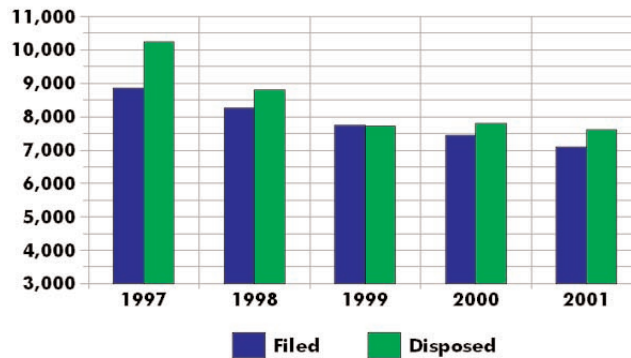
The Court of Appeals hears both civil and criminal cases. Persons convicted of a criminal offense other than by a guilty plea have an appeal by right under the state constitution, if the appeal complies with the Michigan Court Rules.

In 2001, 7,102 cases were filed with the Court of Appeals. This represents a decrease of 5% (358) over the 7,460 cases filed in 2000.

In 2001, the Court of Appeals disposed of 7,606 cases, a decrease of 2% (193) over the 7,799 cases disposed in 2000. Of the dispositions, 4,468 (59%) were by order and 3,138 (41%) were by opinion.

TRENDS IN COURT OF APPEALS FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS

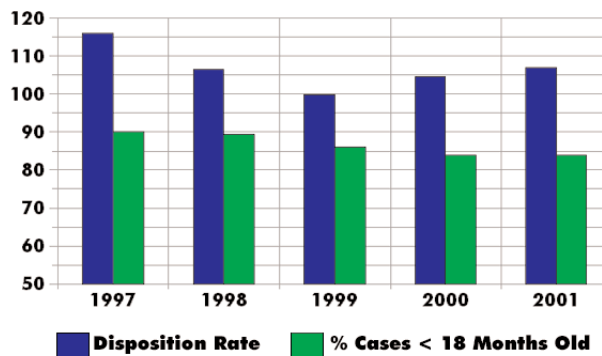
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Filed	8,866	8,264	7,731	7,460	7,102
Disposed	10,242	8,806	7,715	7,799	7,606



TRENDS IN DISPOSITION RATE AND CASE AGE

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Disposition Rate*	116	107	100	105	107
% Cases < 18 Months Old	90%	89%	86%	84%	84%

*Cases disposed yearly per 100 new filings



Circuit Court

Key

- * Appointed to succeed another judge
- A** Appointed to another position
- D** Defeated
- E** Elected to another court
- F** Deceased
- G** Grandfathered
- O** Mandatory retirement
- R** Retired
- S** Resigned
- T** Term expired

Circuit Court Judges

C01

Hon. Michael R. Smith

C02

Hon. John N. Fields
Hon. Casper O. Grathwohl
Hon. John T. Hammond
Hon. Paul L. Maloney

C03

Hon. Wendy M. Baxter
Hon. Annette J. Berry
Hon. Gregory D. Bill
Hon. Susan D. Borman
Hon. Ulysses W. Boykin
Hon. Margie R. Braxton
Hon. Helen E. Brown

Hon. William Leo Cahalan
Hon. Bill Callahan
Hon. Michael J. Callahan
Hon. James R. Chylinski
Hon. Robert J. Colombo, Jr.
Hon. Sean F. Cox
Hon. George W. Crockett, III
Hon. Daphne Means Curtis
Hon. Gershwin Allen Drain
Hon. Maggie Drake
Hon. Prentis Edwards
Hon. Robert L. Evans
Hon. Vonda R. Evans
Hon. Patricia Susan Fresard
Hon. John H. Gillis, Jr.

Hon. William J. Giovan
Hon. Richard B. Halloran, Jr.
Hon. Pamela R. Harwood
Hon. Amy Patricia Hathaway
Hon. Cynthia Gray Hathaway
Hon. Diane Marie Hathaway
Hon. Michael M. Hathaway
(joined the court 04/03/01*)
Hon. Richard P. Hathaway
Hon. Karen Fort Hood
Hon. Thomas Edward Jackson
Hon. Vera Massey Jones
Hon. Mary Beth Kelly
Hon. Timothy Michael Kenny
Hon. Arthur J. Lombard
Hon. William Lucas

Hon. Kathleen I. Macdonald
Hon. Sheila Gibson Manning
Hon. Kathleen M. McCarthy
Hon. Warfield Moore, Jr.
Hon. Bruce U. Morrow
Hon. John A. Murphy
Hon. Christopher M. Murray
(left the court 01/16/02*)
Hon. Susan Bieke Neilson
Hon. Maria L. Oxholm
(joined the court 03/13/02*)
Hon. Lita Masini Popke
Hon. James J. Rashid
Hon. Daniel P. Ryan
Hon. Michael F. Sapala
Hon. Louis F. Simmons, Jr.



Circuit Court Judges

C03 (continued)

Hon. Jeanne Stempien
Hon. Cynthia Diane Stephens
Hon. Craig S. Strong
Hon. Brian R. Sullivan
Hon. Harvey F. Tennen
Hon. Kaye Tertzag
Hon. Deborah A. Thomas
Hon. Edward M. Thomas
Hon. Isidore B. Torres
Hon. Leonard Townsend
Hon. Mary M. Waterstone
Hon. Kym L. Worthy
Hon. Carole F. Youngblood
Hon. Robert L. Ziolkowski

C04

Hon. Edward J. Grant
Hon. Charles A. Nelson
Hon. Alexander C. Perlos
Hon. Chad C. Schmucker

C05

Hon. James H. Fisher

C06

Hon. James M. Alexander
(joined the court 09/04/01*)
Hon. Steven N. Andrews
Hon. Patrick J. Brennan
Hon. Rae Lee Chabot
(joined the court 01/16/01*)
Hon. Alice L. Gilbert
Hon. Nanci J. Grant
Hon. Barry L. Howard
(left the court 04/15/01^R)
Hon. Richard D. Kuhn
Hon. Denise Langford-Morris
Hon. John James McDonald
Hon. Fred M. Mester
Hon. Rudy J. Nichols
Hon. Colleen A. O'Brien
Hon. Wendy Lynn Potts
Hon. Gene Schnelz
Hon. Edward Sosnick
Hon. Deborah G. Tyner
Hon. Joan E. Young

C07

Hon. Duncan M. Beagle
Hon. Joseph J. Farah
Hon. Judith A. Fullerton
Hon. Archie L. Hayman
Hon. Geoffrey L. Neithercut
Hon. Robert M. Ransom
Hon. Richard B. Yuille

C08

Hon. David A. Hoort
Hon. Charles H. Miel

C09

Hon. Stephen D. Gorsalitz
Hon. J. Richardson Johnson

C09 (continued)

Hon. Richard Ryan Lamb
Hon. Philip D. Schaefer
Hon. William G. Schma

C10

Hon. Fred L. Borchard
Hon. Leopold P. Borrello
Hon. William A. Crane
Hon. Lynda L. Heathscott
Hon. Robert L. Kaczmarek

C11

Hon. Charles H. Stark

C12

Hon. Garfield W. Hood

C13

Hon. Thomas G. Power
Hon. Philip E. Rodgers, Jr.

C14

Hon. James M. Graves, Jr.
Hon. Timothy G. Hicks
Hon. William C. Marietti
Hon. John C. Ruck

C15

Hon. Michael H. Cherry

C16

Hon. James M. Biernat, Sr.
Hon. Mary A. Chrzanowski
Hon. Pat M. Donofrio
Hon. Peter J. Maceroni
Hon. Donald G. Miller
Hon. George E. Montgomery
Hon. Deborah A. Servitto
Hon. Edward A. Servitto, Jr.
Hon. Mark S. Switalski

C17

Hon. George S. Buth
Hon. Kathleen A. Feeney
Hon. Donald A. Johnston, III
Hon. Dennis C. Kolenda
Hon. Dennis B. Leiber
Hon. H. David Soet
Hon. Paul J. Sullivan

C18

Hon. Lawrence M. Bielawski
Hon. William J. Caprathe
Hon. Kenneth W. Schmidt

C19

Hon. James M. Batzer

C20

Hon. Calvin L. Bosman
Hon. Wesley J. Nykamp
Hon. Edward R. Post

C21

Hon. Paul H. Chamberlain

C22

Hon. Archie Cameron Brown
Hon. Timothy P. Connors
Hon. Melinda Morris
Hon. Donald E. Shelton
Hon. David S. Swartz

C23

Hon. J. Richard Ernst

C24

Hon. Donald A. Teeple

C25

Hon. Thomas L. Solka
Hon. John R. Weber

C26

Hon. John F. Kowalski
Hon. Joseph P. Swallow

C27

Hon. Anthony A. Monton
Hon. Terrence R. Thomas

C28

Hon. Charles D. Corwin

C29

Hon. Jeffrey L. Martlew
Hon. Randy L. Tahvonen

C30

Hon. Laura Baird
Hon. Thomas Leo Brown
Hon. William E. Collette
Hon. James R. Giddings
Hon. Lawrence M. Glazer
Hon. Peter D. Houk
Hon. Paula J.M. Manderfield

C31

Hon. James P. Adair
Hon. Peter E. Deegan
Hon. Daniel J. Kelly

C32

Hon. Roy D. Gotham

C33

Hon. Richard M. Pajtas

C34

Hon. Michael J. Baumgartner
Hon. Ronald M. Bergeron

C35

Hon. Gerald D. Lostracco

C36

Hon. William C. Buhl
Hon. Paul E. Hamre

C37

Hon. Allen L. Garbrecht
Hon. James C. Kingsley
Hon. Stephen B. Miller
Hon. Conrad J. Sindt

C38

Hon. Joseph A. Costello, Jr.
Hon. Michael W. LaBeau
Hon. William F. LaVoy

C39

Hon. Harvey A. Koselka
Hon. Timothy P. Pickard

C40

Hon. Michael P. Higgins
Hon. Nick O. Holowka

C41

Hon. Mary Brouillette
Barglind
Hon. Richard J. Celello

C42

Hon. Paul J. Clulo
Hon. Thomas L. Ludington

C43

Hon. Michael E. Dodge

C44

Hon. Daniel A. Burress
Hon. Stanley J. Latreille

C45

Hon. James P. Noecker

C46

Hon. Alton T. Davis
Hon. Dennis F. Murphy

C47

Hon. Stephen T. Davis

C48

Hon. Harry A. Beach
Hon. George R. Corsiglia

C49

Hon. Lawrence C. Root

C50

Hon. Nicholas J. Lambros

C51

Hon. Richard I. Cooper

C52

Hon. M. Richard Knoblock

C53

Hon. Scott Lee Pavlich

C54

Hon. Patrick Reed Joslyn

C55

Hon. Kurt N. Hansen

C56

Hon. Thomas S. Eveland
Hon. Calvin E. Osterhaven

C57

Hon. Charles W. Johnson

Circuit Court

The state is divided into judicial circuits along county lines. The number of judges within a circuit is established by the Legislature to accommodate required judicial activity. In multi-county circuits, judges travel from one county to another to hold court sessions.

The circuit court is the trial court of general jurisdiction in Michigan because of its very broad powers. The circuit court has jurisdiction over all actions except those given by state law to another court. The circuit court has original jurisdiction in all criminal cases where the offense involves a felony or certain serious misdemeanors; civil cases over \$25,000; family division cases; appeals from district court, probate court and administrative agencies; and drain code condemnation cases.

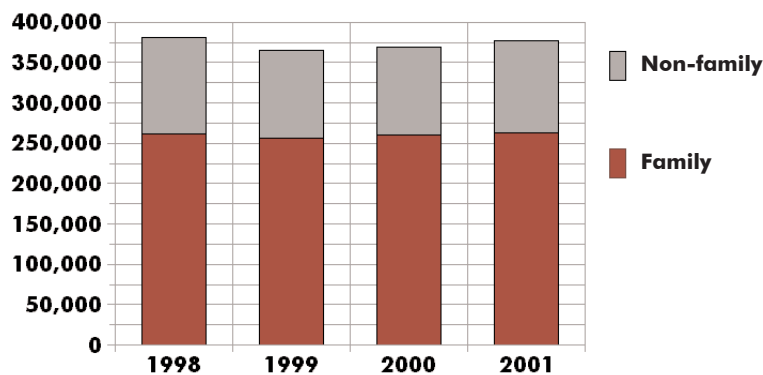
In addition, the circuit court has superintending control over other courts within the judicial circuit, subject to final superintending control of the Supreme Court.

Circuit judges are elected for terms of six years in nonpartisan elections. A candidate must be a qualified elector, a resident of the judicial circuit, a lawyer admitted to practice for five years and under 70 years of age. The Legislature sets salaries for circuit judges.

In 2001, 376,821 cases were filed in the circuit court.

TRENDS IN CIRCUIT COURT FILINGS

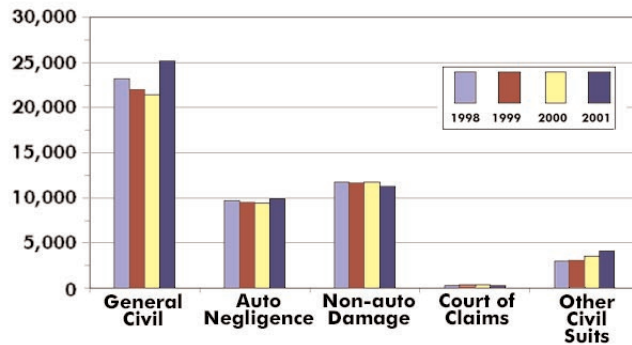
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Family	261,516	257,053	259,821	262,628
Nonfamily	118,946	108,413	109,291	114,193
Total	380,462	365,466	369,112	376,821



JUDICIAL ACTIVITY AND CASELOAD

TRENDS IN CIRCUIT COURT CIVIL CASE FILINGS

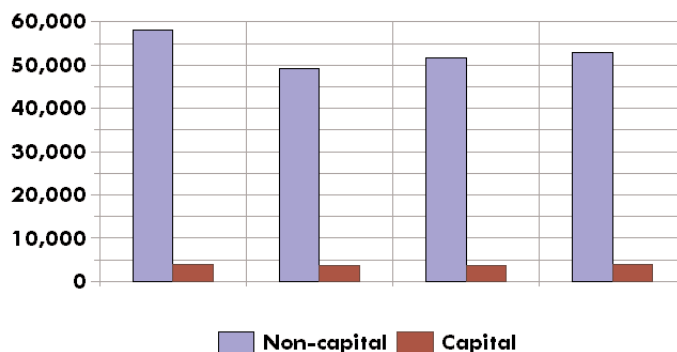
Case type	1998	1999	2000	2001
General Civil	23,223	22,015	21,460	25,194
Auto Negligence	9,687	9,495	9,381	9,886
Non-auto Damage	11,790	11,646	11,703	11,311
Court of Claims	290	344	331	310
Other Civil Suits	2,988	3,039	3,572	4,054
Total	47,978	46,539	46,447	50,755



Between 2000 and 2001, civil cases increased by 9%. General civil cases increased by 17% during the one-year period.

TRENDS IN CIRCUIT COURT CRIMINAL FILINGS

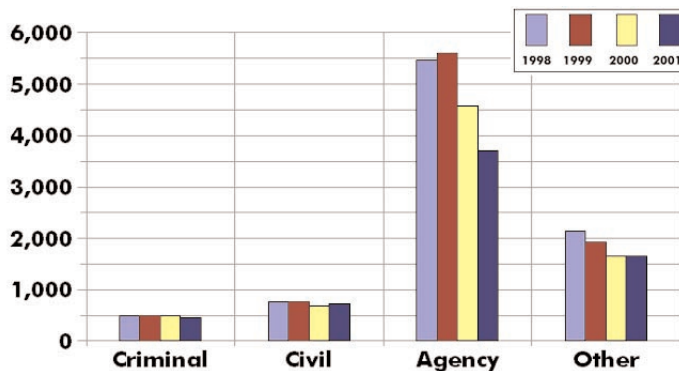
Case type	1998	1999	2000	2001
Non-capital	58,212	49,311	51,686	52,991
Capital	3,905	3,780	3,758	3,907
Total	62,117	53,091	55,444	56,898



In 1999, the Legislature increased the jurisdictional limits of property crime offenses. This resulted in a decrease in felony case filings in circuit court and an increase in misdemeanor case filings in district court.

TRENDS IN CIRCUIT COURT APPEAL FILINGS

Case type	1998	1999	2000	2001
Criminal	497	496	484	454
Civil	765	757	687	723
Agency	5,458	5,607	4,572	3,701
Other	2,131	1,923	1,657	1,662
Total	8,851	8,783	7,400	6,540



The number of new appeals filed has declined over the last several years. The overall decline between 1998 and 2001 was 26%. Between 2000 and 2001, agency appeals declined by 19%.

Family Division of Circuit Court

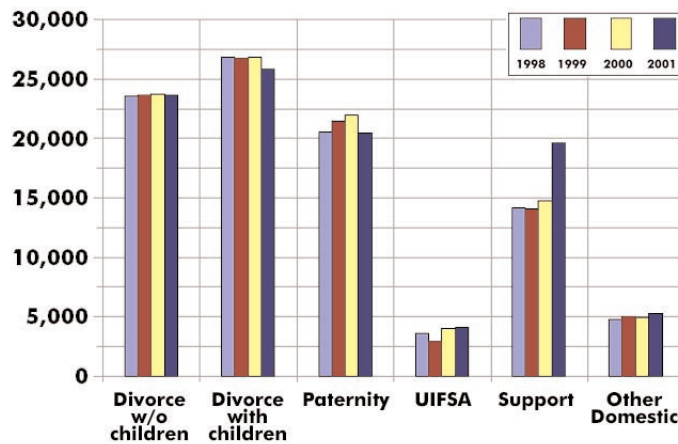
Over a quarter of a million cases were filed in the family division of the circuit court in 2001. Seventy percent of all circuit filings were family division cases, while 30% were non-family circuit court cases.

In 2001, there were 98,896 domestic relations filings, an increase of 6% since 1998. During 2001, courts reported 16,462 new filings for personal protection against stalking and 33,123 filings for personal protection in domestic relationship situations.

JUDICIAL ACTIVITY AND CASELOAD

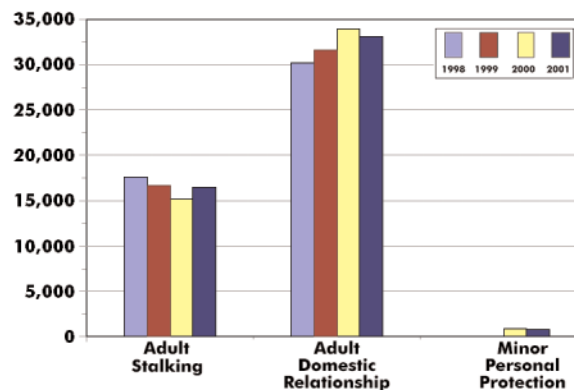
TRENDS IN DOMESTIC RELATIONS FILINGS

Case type	1998	1999	2000	2001
Divorce w/o children	23,571	23,663	23,760	23,679
Divorce with children	26,841	26,716	26,799	25,796
Paternity	20,521	21,493	21,940	20,493
UIFSA	3,575	2,970	4,043	4,072
Support	14,182	14,114	14,758	19,595
Other Domestic	4,771	4,983	4,903	5,261
Total	93,461	93,939	96,203	98,896



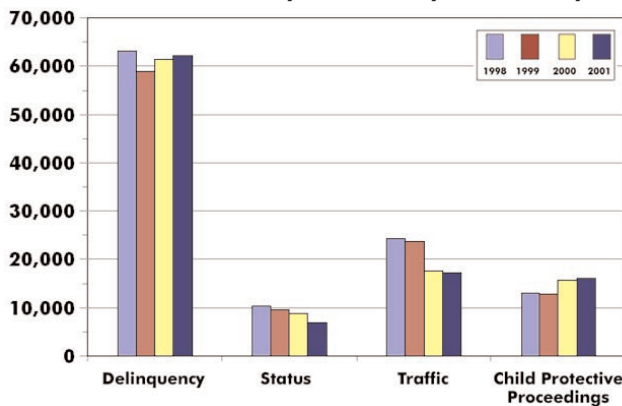
TRENDS IN PERSONAL PROTECTION FILINGS

Case Type	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adult Stalking	17,640	16,660	15,144	16,462
Adult Domestic Relationship	30,168	31,563	33,913	33,123
Minor	N/A	N/A	875	840
Total	47,808	48,223	49,932	50,425



TRENDS IN CIRCUIT COURT JUVENILE PETITION FILINGS

Case type	1998	1999	2000	2001
Delinquency	63,209	59,043	61,416	62,290
Status	10,323	9,625	8,753	6,928
Traffic	24,236	23,779	17,653	17,205
Child Protective	12,910	12,883	15,638	16,081
Designated Cases	N/A	N/A	240	178
Total	110,678	105,330	103,700	103,402

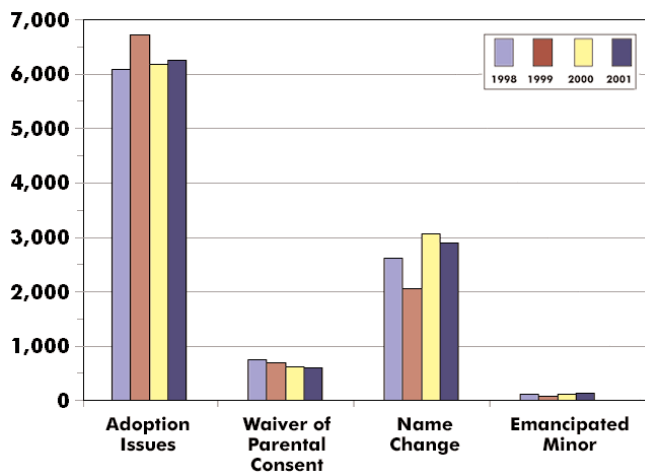


Petitions in child protective proceedings increased by 30% between 1998 and 2001. During the same period, delinquency petitions decreased by 2%. Overall, petitions filed under the Juvenile Code decreased by 7% during the four-year period.

TRENDS IN CIRCUIT COURT "OTHER" FAMILY CASE FILINGS

Case Type	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption*	6,085	6,729	6,190	6,257
Waiver of Parental Consent	744	691	613	600
Name Change	2,625	2,058	3,066	2,904
Emancipated Minor	109	82	113	138
Infectious Disease	6	1	4	6
Total	9,569	9,561	9,986	9,905

*This figure includes petitions for adoption, adoption information, and appointment of confidential intermediary. It does not represent the actual number of adoptions.



Court of Claims

The jurisdiction of the Court of Claims, except as otherwise provided by law, extends over claims and demands against the State of Michigan or any of its departments, commissions, boards, institutions, arms or agencies, except those arising from line-of-duty injuries to state employees. Claimants may sue in the Court of Claims if the claim is for \$1,000 or more. The State Court Administrative Board is vested with discretionary authority in claims under \$1,000. By statute, the Court of Claims is a function of the 30th Judicial Circuit Court of Ingham County.

*The jurisdiction of
the Court of Claims
... extends over
claims and
demands against
the State of
Michigan ...*

Friend of the Court

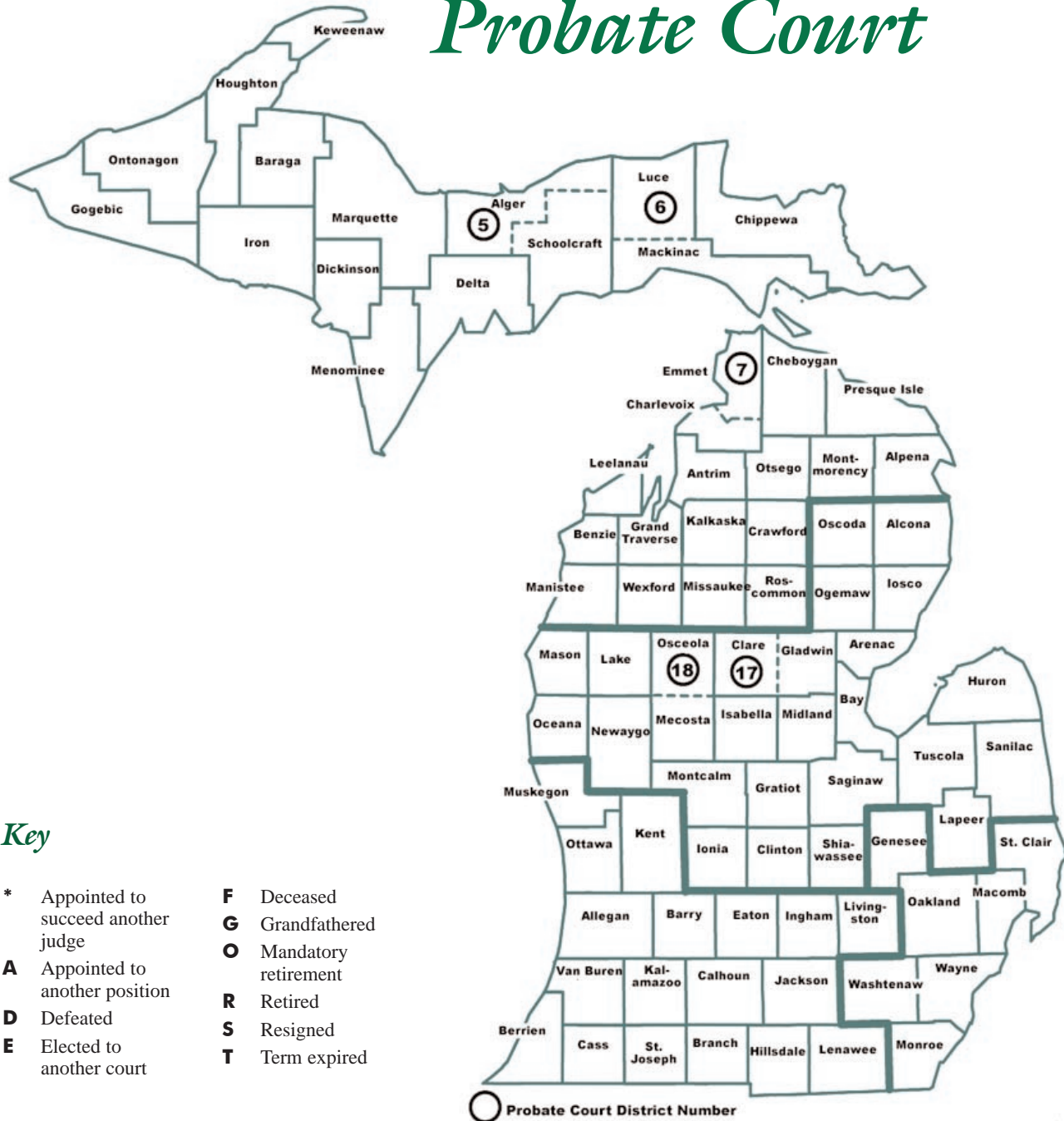
The Friend of the Court office was created by statute in 1919. The Friend of the Court has the following duties according to law:

- investigate, report and make recommendations to the court regarding custody, parenting time, and support issues;
- provide mediation as another way of settling disagreements over custody and parenting time of children;
- collect, record, and distribute all support payments ordered by the court,
- enforce all custody, parenting time, and support orders entered by the court.

The Friend of the Court has a statewide caseload in excess of 800,000 and collects annually over \$1.4 billion in support for Michigan families.

*The Friend of the
Court has a
statewide caseload
in excess of 800,000
and collects
annually over \$1.4
billion in support
for Michigan
families.*

Probate Court



Probate Court Judges

P01 Alcona County

Hon. James H. Cook

PD5 Alger & Schoolcraft Counties

Hon. William W. Carmody

P03 Allegan County

Hon. Michael L. Buck

P04 Alpena County

Hon. Douglas A. Pugh

P05 Antrim County

Hon. Norman R. Hayes

P06 Arenac County

Hon. Jack William Scully

P07 Baraga County

Hon. Timothy S. Brennan

P08 Barry County

Hon. Richard H. Shaw

P09 Bay County

Hon. Karen Tighe

P10 Benzie County

Hon. Nancy A. Kida

P11 Berrien County

Hon. Mabel Johnson Mayfield

Hon. Thomas E. Nelson

P12 Branch County

Hon. Frederick L. Wood

P13 Calhoun County

Hon. Phillip E. Harter

Hon. Gary K. Reed

P14 Cass County

Hon. Susan L. Dobrich

PD7 Charlevoix & Emmet Counties

Hon. Frederick R. Mulhauser

P16 Cheboygan County

Hon. Robert John Butts

P17 Chippewa County

Hon. Lowell R. Ulrich

PD17 Clare & Gladwin Counties

Hon. Thomas P. McLaughlin

P19 Clinton County

Hon. Marvin E. Robertson

P20 Crawford County

Hon. John G. Hunter

P21 Delta County

Hon. Robert E. Goebel, Jr.

P22 Dickinson County

Hon. John A. Torreano

P23 Eaton County

Hon. Michael F. Skinner

PD7 Charlevoix & Emmet Counties

Hon. Frederick R. Mulhauser

P25 Genesee County

Hon. Thomas L. Gadola

Hon. Allen J. Nelson

Hon. Bruce A. Newman

(left the court 12/31/01^F)

Hon. Robert E. Weiss

(joined the court 02/11/02*)

PD17 Clare & Gladwin Counties

Hon. Thomas P. McLaughlin

P27 Gogebic County

Hon. Joel L. Massie

P28 Grand Traverse County

Hon. David L. Stowe

P29 Gratiot County

Hon. Jack T. Arnold

P30 Hillsdale County

Hon. Albert J. Neukom

P31 Houghton County

Hon. John A. Mikkola

P32 Huron County

Hon. David L. Clabuesch

P33 Ingham County

Hon. R. George Economy

Hon. Richard Joseph Garcia

P34 Ionia County

Hon. Gerald J. Supina

P35 Iosco County

Hon. John D. Hamilton

P36 Iron County

Hon. C. Joseph Schwedler

P37 Isabella County

Hon. William T. Ervin

P38 Jackson County

Hon. Susan E. Vandercook

P39 Kalamazoo County

Hon. Patricia N. Conlon

Hon. Donald R. Halstead

Hon. Carolyn H. Williams

P40 Kalkaska County

Hon. Lynne Marie Buday

P41 Kent County

Hon. Nanaruth H. Carpenter

Hon. Patricia D. Gardner

Hon. Janet A. Haynes

Hon. G. Patrick Hillary

P42 Keweenaw County

Hon. James G. Jaaskelainen

P43 Lake County

Hon. Mark S. Wickens

P44 Lapeer County

Hon. Justus C. Scott

P45 Leelanau County

Hon. Joseph E. Deegan

P46 Lenawee County

Hon. Charles W. Jameson

P47 Livingston County

Hon. Susan L. Reck

PD6 Luce & Mackinac Counties

Hon. Thomas B. North

P50 Macomb County

Hon. James F. Nowicki

Hon. Pamela Gilbert

O'Sullivan

Hon. Antonio P. Viviano

P51 Manistee County

Hon. John R. DeVries

P52 Marquette County

Hon. Michael J. Anderegg

P53 Mason County

Hon. Mark D. Raven

PD18 Mecosta & Osceola Counties

Hon. LaVail E. Hull

P55 Menominee County

Hon. William A. Hupy

P56 Midland County

Hon. Dorene S. Allen

P57 Missaukee County

Hon. Charles R. Parsons

P58 Monroe County

Hon. John A. Hohman, Jr.

Hon. Pamela A. Moskwa

P59 Montcalm County

Hon. Edward L. Skinner

P60 Montmorency County

Hon. Robert P.M. Nordstrom

P61 Muskegon County

Hon. Neil G. Mullally

Hon. Gregory Christopher

Pittman

P62 Newaygo County

Hon. Graydon W. Dimkoff

P63 Oakland County

Hon. Barry M. Grant

Hon. Linda S. Hallmark

Hon. Eugene Arthur Moore

Hon. Elizabeth M. Pezzetti

(joined the court 01/29/01*)

P64 Oceana County

Hon. Walter A. Urick

P65 Ogemaw County

Hon. Eugene I. Turkelson

P66 Ontonagon County

Hon. Joseph D. Zeleznik

PD18 Mecosta & Osceola Counties

Hon. LaVail E. Hull

P68 Oscoda County

Hon. Kathryn Joan Root

P69 Otsego County

Hon. Michael K. Cooper

P70 Ottawa County

Hon. Mark A. Feyen

P71 Presque Isle County

Hon. Kenneth A. Radzibon

P72 Roscommon County

Hon. Douglas C. Dosson

P73 Saginaw County

Hon. Faye M. Harrison

Hon. Patrick J. McGraw

P74 St. Clair County

Hon. Elwood L. Brown

Hon. John R. Monaghan

P75 St. Joseph County

Hon. Thomas E. Shumaker

P76 Sanilac County

Hon. R. Terry Maltby

PD5 Alger & Schoolcraft Counties

Hon. William W. Carmody

P78 Shiawassee County

Hon. James R. Clatterbaugh

P79 Tuscola County

Hon. W. Wallace Kent, Jr.

P80 Van Buren County

Hon. Frank D. Willis

P81 Washtenaw County

Hon. Nancy Cornelia Francis

Hon. John N. Kirkendall

P82 Wayne County

Hon. June E. Blackwell-Hatcher

Hon. Freddie G. Burton, Jr.

Hon. Patricia B. Campbell

Hon. James E. Lacey

Hon. Milton L. Mack, Jr.

Hon. Cathie B. Maher

Hon. Martin T. Maher

Hon. Frances Pitts

Hon. David J. Szymanski

P83 Wexford County

Hon. Kenneth L. Tacoma

Probate Court

Each Michigan county has a probate court, with the exception of ten counties which have consolidated to form five probate court districts. Each district has one judge, and each of the remaining counties have one or more judges depending, in large part, on the population and caseload within the county.

The probate court has jurisdiction over cases pertaining to admission of wills, administration of estates and trusts, guardianships, conservatorships, and the treatment of mentally ill and developmentally disabled persons.

Probate judges are elected on a nonpartisan ballot for six-year terms, subject to the same requirements as other judges. The Legislature sets the salary for probate judges.

In many courts, probate judges have been assigned to the circuit court in order to help manage the caseload in the family division.

PROBATE COURT: TRENDS IN NEW FILINGS

Case Type	1998	1999	2000	2001
Supervised Estates ¹	6,170	5,985	2,222	644
Independent Estates ²	14,548	14,831	16,102	18,584
Trusts	784	747	825	789
Guardians DDP	2,591	2,486	1,912	1,486
Limited Guardians	2,958	2,818	2,691	2,630
Other Guardians	15,382	14,552	13,563	13,185
Conservators	7,999	7,532	7,492	6,552
Civil Actions	299	296	302	367
Judicial and Administrative Admissions DDP	54	38	57	85

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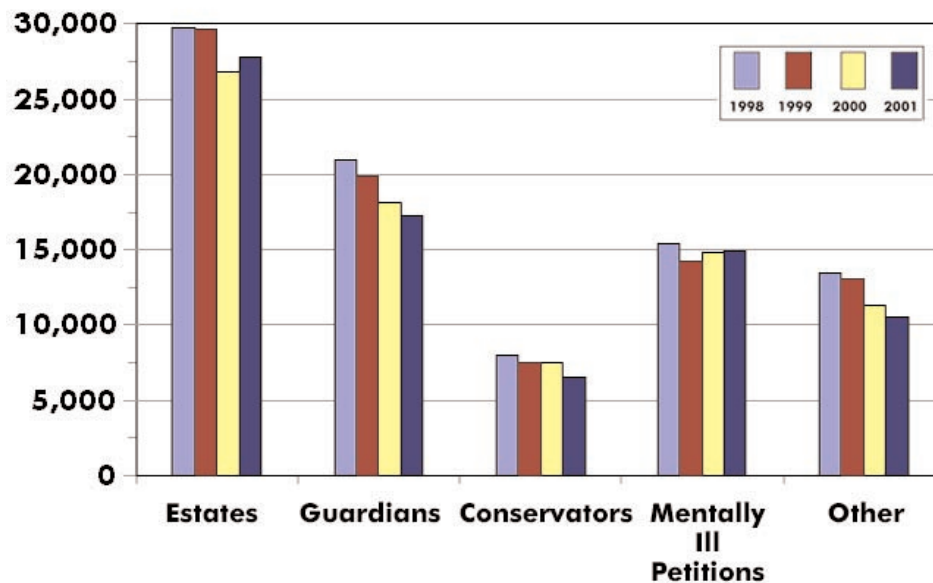
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PROBATE COURT: TRENDS IN NEW FILINGS

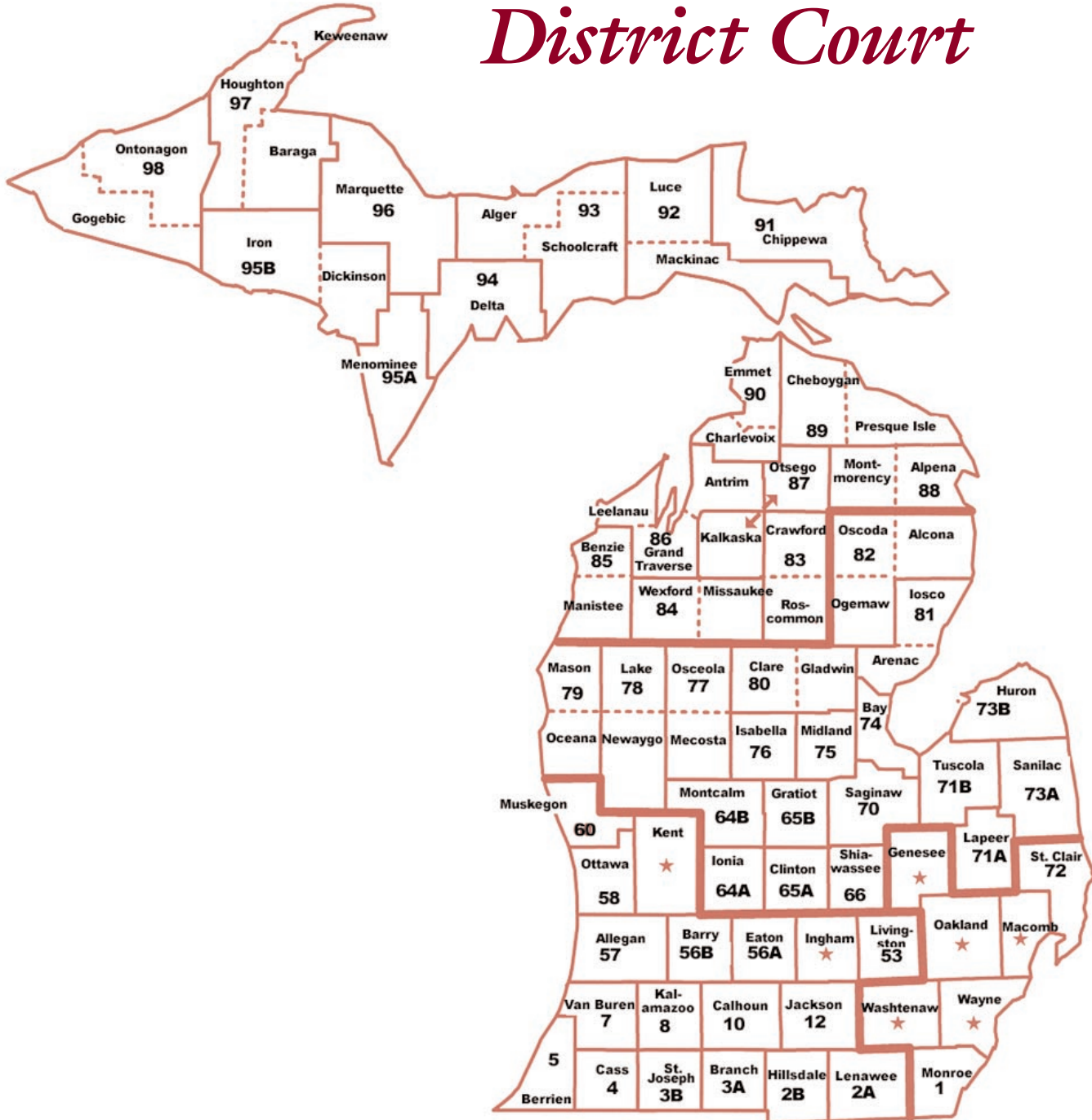
Mentally Ill Petitions	15,394	14,227	14,819	14,914
Assignment of Property	8,110	7,972	7,568	7,653
Protective Orders	243	249	381	478
Marriages	543	508	525	485
Safe Deposit Box	275	243	299	248
Trust Registration and Wills for Safekeeping	12,050	11,781	9,826	8,982
Appeals to Probate Court	11	3	7	8
Determine Heirs	72	23	50	43
Total	87,483	84,291	78,641	77,133

¹Includes new filings for supervised administration after 4/1/2000.

²Includes new filings for unsupervised administration after 4/1/2000.

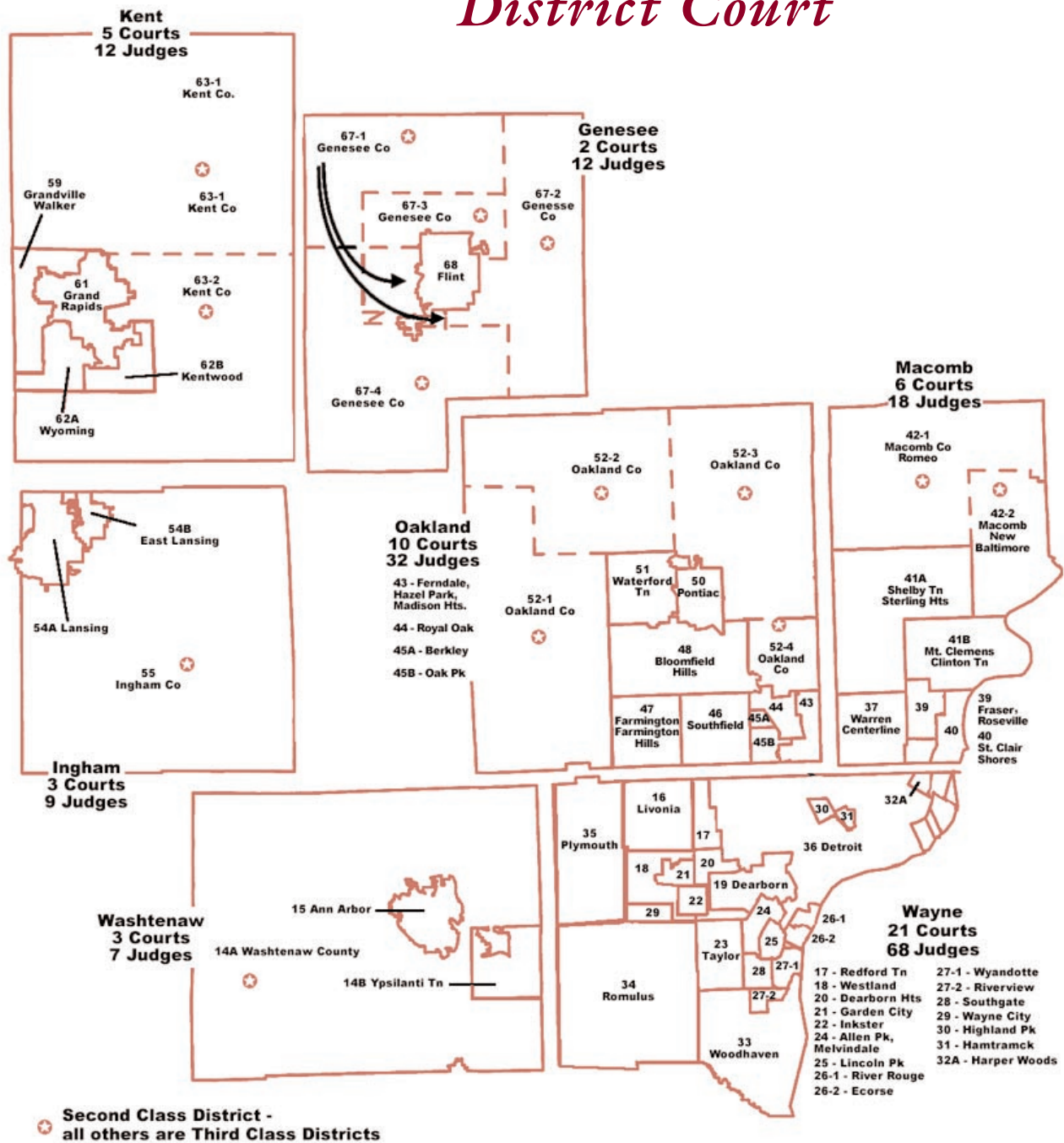


District Court



★ See detail map

2ND & 3RD Class District Court



*District Court Judges***D01**

Hon. Paul E. Braunlich
Hon. Terrence P. Bronson
Hon. Jack Vitale

D02A

Hon. Natalia M. Koselka
Hon. James E. Sheridan

D02B

Hon. Donald L. Sanderson

D03A

Hon. David T. Coyle

D03B

Hon. William L. McManus
Hon. William D. Welty

D04

Hon. Paul E. Deats

D05

Hon. Gary J. Bruce
Hon. Angela Pasula
Hon. Scott Schofield
Hon. Lynda A. Tolen
Hon. Dennis M. Wiley

D07

Hon. Ward S. Hamlin, Jr.
Hon. Robert T. Hentchel

D08-1

Hon. Quinn E. Benson
Hon. Ann L. Hannon
Hon. Carol A. Husum

D08-2

Hon. Robert C. Kropf

D08-3

Hon. Paul J. Bridenstine
Hon. Richard A. Santoni
Hon. Vincent C. Westra

D10

Hon. Samuel I. Durham, Jr.
Hon. John R. Holmes
Hon. Franklin K. Line, Jr.
Hon. Marvin Ratner

D12

Hon. Charles J. Falahee, Jr.
Hon. Lysle G. Hall
Hon. James M. Justin
Hon. Carlene G. Lefere

D14A

Hon. Richard E. Conlin
Hon. J. Cedric Simpson
Hon. Kirk W. Tabbey

D14B

Hon. John B. Collins

D15

Hon. Julie Creal Goodridge
Hon. Elizabeth Pollard Hines
Hon. Ann E. Mattson

D16

Hon. Robert B. Brzezinski
Hon. Kathleen J. McCann

D17

Hon. Karen Khalil
Hon. Charlotte L. Wirth

D18

Hon. C. Charles Bokos
Hon. Gail McKnight

D19

Hon. William C. Hultgren
Hon. William J. Runco
Hon. Virginia A. Sobotka

D20

Hon. Leo K. Foran
Hon. Mark J. Plawecki

D21

Hon. Richard L. Hammer, Jr.

D22

Hon. Sylvia A. James

D23

Hon. Geno Salomone
Hon. William J. Sutherland

D24

Hon. John T. Courtright
Hon. Gerard Trudel

D25

Hon. David A. Bajorek
Hon. Joseph H. DeLaurentiis

D26-1

Hon. Raymond A. Charron

D26-2

Hon. Michael F. Ciungan

D27-1

Hon. Randy L. Kalmbach

D27-2

Hon. Glenn C. Valasco

D28

Hon. James A. Kandrevas

D29

Hon. Carolyn A. Archbold

D30

Hon. William F. Bledsoe
Hon. L. Kim Hoagland

D31

Hon. Patrick T. Cahill
(left the court 10/21/01^R)
Hon. Paul J. Paruk

D32A

Hon. Roger J. La Rose

D33

Hon. James Kurt Kersten
Hon. Michael K. McNally
Hon. Donald L. Swank

D34

Hon. Tina Brooks Green
Hon. Brian A. Oakley
Hon. William J. Szlinis

D35

Hon. Ronald W. Lowe
Hon. John E. MacDonald

D36

Hon. Deborah Ross Adams
Hon. Trudy DunCombe Archer
Hon. Marylin E. Atkins
Hon. Joseph N. Baltimore
Hon. Nancy McCaughan Blount
Hon. David Martin Bradfield

Hon. Izetta F. Bright
Hon. Donald Coleman

Hon. Theresa Doss
Hon. Norma Y. Dotson

Hon. Nancy A. Farmer

Hon. Ruth Ann Garrett

Hon. Jimmylee Gray

Hon. Paula G. Humphries

Hon. Patricia L. Jefferson

Hon. Vanesa F. Jones-Bradley

Hon. Deborah L. Langston

Hon. Willie G. Lipscomb, Jr.

Hon. Leona L. Lloyd
(left the court 06/09/01^F)

Hon. Leonia J. Lloyd

Hon. Miriam B. Martin-Clark

Hon. Wade H. McCree

Hon. Donna R. Milhouse

Hon. Marion A. Moore

Hon. Lydia Nance Adams

Hon. Jeanette O'Banner-Owens

Hon. Maria L. Oxholm
(left the court 03/13/02^A)

Hon. John R. Perry

Hon. Mark A. Randon

(joined the court 03/12/01*)

Kevin F. Robbins

(joined the court 03/22/02*)

Hon. David S. Robinson, Jr.
(joined the court 09/04/01*)

Hon. C. Lorene Royster

Hon. Ted Wallace

D37

Hon. John M. Chmura
Hon. Susan R. Chrzanowski
Hon. Dawnn M. Gruenburg
Hon. Walter A. Jakubowski, Jr.

D39

Hon. Joseph F. Boedeker
Hon. Peter H. Mytnyk
(joined the court 03/13/01*)
Hon. Marco A. Santia

D40

Hon. Mark A. Fratarcangeli
Hon. Joseph Craigen Oster

D41A

Hon. Kenneth J. Kosnic
Hon. Michael S. Maceroni
Hon. Douglas P. Shepherd
Hon. Stephen S. Sierawski

D41B

Hon. William H. Cannon
Hon. Linda Davis
Hon. John C. Foster

D42-1

Hon. Richard D. McLean

D42-2

Hon. Paul Cassidy

D43

Hon. Keith P. Hunt
Hon. Joseph Longo
Hon. Robert J. Turner

D44

Hon. Terrence H. Brennan
Hon. Daniel Sawicki

D45A

Hon. William R. Sauer

D45B

Hon. Marvin F. Frankel
Hon. Benjamin J. Friedman

D46

Hon. Stephen C. Cooper
Hon. Bryan Howard Levy
Hon. Susan M. Moiseev

D47

Hon. Frederick L. Harris
Hon. Marla E. Parker

D48

Hon. Edward Avadenka
Hon. Diane D'Agostini
Hon. Kimberly Small

D50

Hon. Leo Bowman
Hon. Christopher C. Brown
Hon. Preston G. Thomas
Hon. William Waterman

D51

Hon. Kenneth H. Hempstead
Hon. Phyllis C. McMillen

D52-1

Hon. Michael Batchik
Hon. Brian W. MacKenzie
Hon. Dennis N. Powers

D52-2

Hon. Gerald E. McNally

District Court Judges

D52-3

Hon. Lisa L. Asadoorian
Hon. Nancy Tolwin Carniak
Hon. Julie A. Nicholson

D52-4

Hon. William E. Bolle
Hon. Dennis C. Drury
Hon. Michael A. Martone

D53

Hon. Frank R. Del Vero
Hon. Michael K. Hegarty
Hon. A. John Pikkarainen

D54A

Hon. Louise Alderson
(joined the court 08/13/01*)
Hon. Patrick F. Cherry
Hon. Frank J. DeLuca
Hon. Charles F. Filice
Hon. Beverley Renee Nettles-
Nickerson

D54B

Hon. Richard D. Ball
Hon. David L. Jordon

D55

Hon. Thomas E. Brennan, Jr.
Hon. Pamela J. McCabe

D56A

Hon. Paul F. Berger
Hon. Harvey J. Hoffman

D56B

Hon. Gary R. Holman

D57

Hon. Stephen E. Sheridan
Hon. Gary A. Stewart

D58

Hon. Susan A. Jonas
Hon. Richard J. Kloote
Hon. Hannes Meyers, Jr.
Hon. Kenneth D. Post

D59

Hon. Peter P. Versluis

D60

Hon. Fredric A. Grimm, Jr.
Hon. Michael Jeffrey Nolan
Hon. Richard J. Pasarella
Hon. Andrew Wierengo

D61

Hon. Patrick C. Bowler
Hon. David J. Buter
Hon. J. Michael Christensen
Hon. Jeanine Nemesi LaVille
Hon. Ben H. Logan, II
Hon. Donald H. Passenger

D62A

Hon. Jack R. Jelsema
Hon. Steven M. Timmers

D62B

Hon. William G. Kelly

D63-1

Hon. Steven R. Servaas

D63-2

Hon. Sara J. Smolenski

D64A

Hon. Raymond P. Voet

D64B

Hon. Donald R. Hemingsen

D65A

Hon. Richard D. Wells

D65B

Hon. James B. Mackie

D66

Hon. Ward L. Clarkson
Hon. Terrance P. Dignan

D67-1

Hon. Arthalu Lancaster
(left the court 01/15/02^R)
Hon. Donald G. Rockwell
(joined the court 03/04/02*)

D67-2

Hon. John L. Conover
Hon. Richard L. Hughes

D67-3

Hon. Larry Stecco

D67-4

Hon. Mark C. McCabe
Hon. Christopher Odette

D68

Hon. Peter Anastor
Hon. William H. Crawford, II
Hon. Herman Marable, Jr.
Hon. Michael D. McAra
Hon. Nathaniel C. Perry, III
Hon. Ramona M. Roberts

D70-1

Hon. Terry L. Clark
Hon. Joseph G. DeFrancesco
Hon. M. T. Thompson, Jr.

D70-2

Hon. Christopher S. Boyd
Hon. Darnell Jackson
(joined the court 02/05/01*)
Hon. Kyle Higgs Tarrant

D71A

Hon. Laura Cheger Barnard
Hon. John T. Connolly

D71B

Hon. Kim David Glaspie

D72

Hon. Richard A. Cooley, Jr.
Hon. John G. Cummings
Hon. David C. Nicholson

D73A

Hon. James A. Marcus

D73B

Hon. Karl E. Kraus

D74

Hon. Craig D. Alston
Hon. Timothy J. Kelly
Hon. Scott J. Newcombe

D75

Hon. John Henry Hart
Hon. James E. Wilson

D76

Hon. William R. Rush

D77

Hon. Susan H. Grant

D78

Hon. H. Kevin Drake

D79

Hon. John R. Carney, Jr.

D80

Hon. Gary J. Allen

D81

Hon. Allen C. Yenior

D82

Hon. Richard E. Noble

D83

Hon. Francis L. Walsh

D84

Hon. David A. Hogg

D85

Hon. Brent V. Danielson

D86

Hon. Thomas S. Gilbert
Hon. Michael J. Haley
Hon. Thomas J. Phillips

D87

Hon. Patricia A. Morse

D88

Hon. Theodore O. Johnson

D89

Hon. Harold A. Johnson, Jr.

D90

Hon. Richard W. May

D91

Hon. Michael W. MacDonald

D92

Hon. Steven E. Ford

D93

Hon. Bruce E. Plackowski

D94

Hon. Robert J. DeGrand

D95A

Hon. Jeffrey G. Barstow

D95B

Hon. Michael J. Kusz

D96

Hon. James M. Collins
Hon. Dennis H. Girard

D97

Hon. Phillip L. Kukkonen

D98

Hon. Anders B. Tingstad, Jr.

Key

- * Appointed to succeed another judge
- A** Appointed to another position
- D** Defeated
- E** Elected to another court
- F** Deceased
- G** Grandfathered
- O** Mandatory retirement
- R** Retired
- S** Resigned
- T** Term expired

District Court

Citizens have more contact with district court than any other court in the state. District court has exclusive jurisdiction of all civil litigation up to \$25,000 and handles garnishments, eviction proceedings, land contract and mortgage foreclosures, and other proceedings. In the criminal field, the district court handles all misdemeanors where punishment does not exceed one year and relevant proceedings including arraignment, setting and acceptance of bail, trial, and sentencing. It also conducts preliminary examinations in felony cases.

The district court includes a small claims division for civil cases up to \$3,000. In these cases, litigants agree to waive their right to a jury. They also agree to waive rules of evidence, representation by a lawyer, and the right to appeal from the district judge's decision. If either party objects, the case will be heard in the general civil division of the district court.

Citizens have more contact with district court than any other court in the state.

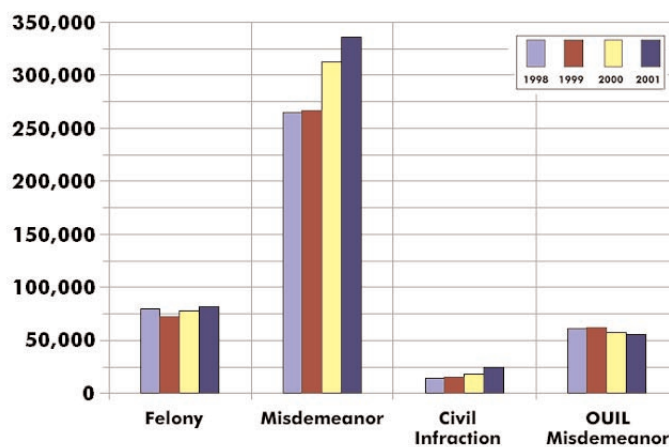
By statute, district judges have authority to appoint magistrates. Magistrates may 1) set bail and accept bond in criminal matters, 2) accept guilty pleas, and 3) sentence for traffic, motor carrier, and snowmobile violations and dog, game, and marine law violations. The magistrate may also issue arrest and search warrants authorized by the prosecutor or municipal attorney. Attorney magistrates may hear small claims cases. Magistrates may, at the direction of the chief judge, perform other duties allowed by statute.

District judges are elected for six-year terms on nonpartisan ballots, under the same requirements as circuit judges. The Legislature sets the salary for district judges.

In 2001, there were 3,298,309 new filings in Michigan district courts. This number represents an increase of 1% over the number of cases filed in 2000.

TRENDS IN DISTRICT COURT CRIMINAL FILINGS

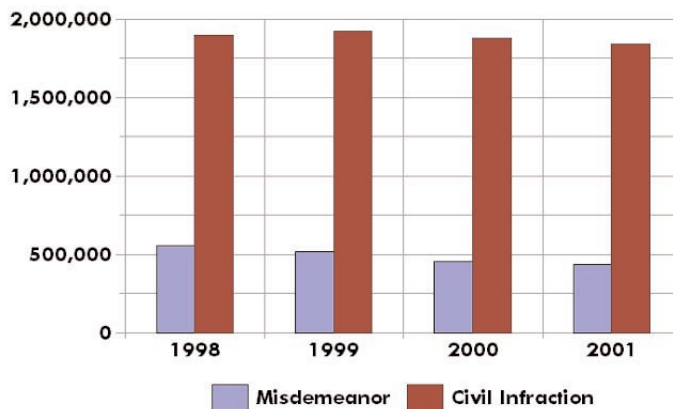
Case Type	1998	1999	2000	2001
Felony	76,858	68,327	71,356	75,816
Misdemeanor	264,720	266,245	312,788	336,114
Civil Infraction	14,263	15,300	17,649	24,792
OUIL Misdemeanor	61,021	61,744	57,445	55,298
OUIL Felony	3,234	3,722	6,242	6,071
Total	420,096	415,338	465,480	498,091



Between 1998 and 2001, criminal filings in district court increased 19%, or by nearly 78,000 cases. Felony filings decreased by 1%, and misdemeanor filings increased by 27%, reflecting to an extent the felony/misdemeanor change in jurisdictional limits for some crimes. Criminal civil infractions increased by 74%.

TRENDS IN DISTRICT COURT TRAFFIC FILINGS

Case Type	1998	1999	2000	2001
Misdemeanor	559,070	516,146	454,974	433,619
Civil Infraction	1,899,501	1,919,164	1,876,729	1,841,999
Total	2,458,571	2,435,310	2,331,703	2,275,618

**TRENDS IN DISTRICT COURT CIVIL FILINGS**

Case Type	1998	1999	2000	2001
General Civil	175,580	176,413	185,710	216,165
Small Claims	95,059	89,842	98,173	106,798
Summary	174,094	181,565	183,480	201,637
Total	444,733	447,820	467,363	524,600



Between 1998 and 2001, civil filings increased by nearly 80,000 cases or 18%.

Municipal Court

Municipal court jurisdiction is limited to claims of \$1,500 or less in civil cases. As of January 1, 1999, municipal courts have civil jurisdiction in cases up to \$3,000 if approved by their local funding unit. Criminal traffic jurisdiction is the same as in district court. When the district court was created by statute in 1968, pursuant to the 1963 Michigan Constitution, most municipal courts in the state were converted into district courts. Today, only five municipal courts remain: Eastpointe, Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Park, Grosse Pointe Woods, and Grosse Pointe Farms.

Municipal judges must be lawyers, residents, and electors of their municipalities. They are paid by the municipalities and are elected for six-year terms.

MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES

MEP (Municipal, Eastpointe)

Hon. Norene S. Redmond
Hon. Martin J. Smith

MGP (Municipal, Grosse Pointe)

Hon. Russell F. Ethridge

MGPF (Municipal, Grosse Pointe Farms)

Hon. Matthew R. Rumora

MGPP (Municipal, Grosse Pointe Park)

Hon. Carl F. Jarboe

MGPW (Municipal, Grosse Pointe Woods)

Hon. Lynne A. Pierce

TRENDS IN MUNICIPAL COURT FILINGS

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total	34,055	32,537	30,027	31,232

